

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT
NORTHERN DISTRICT OF OHIO

JO ANN SWAIN,

Plaintiff,

v.

ARAMARK SPORTS AND
ENTERTAINMENT SERVICES, LLC,

Defendant.

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CASE NO. 1:21-cv-00522

OPINION & ORDER
[Resolving Doc. 4]

JAMES S. GWIN, UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT JUDGE:

Plaintiff Jo Ann Swain sustained injuries while on a bus tour in Alaska. Swain sues the bus tour operator, Defendant Aramark Sports and Entertainment Services, LLC (“Aramark”).¹

Doyon/Aramark Denali National Park Concession Joint Venture (“Doyon/Aramark”) appeared on behalf of Defendant Aramark, asserting it was the proper defendant.² According to Doyon/Aramark, it operated the bus tour, not Aramark.³

Doyon/Aramark moves to dismiss Plaintiff’s complaint for lack of personal jurisdiction. In support of its motion to dismiss, Doyon/Aramark claims that the Doyon/Aramark joint venture has insufficient contacts with Ohio to support personal jurisdiction. Doyon/Aramark makes no argument specifically related to whether its participants, Doyon and Aramark have Ohio contacts.

¹ Doc. [1](#).

² Doc. [4](#).

³ *Id.*

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In the alternative, Doyon/Aramark moves to transfer venue to the Federal District Court for the District of Alaska.⁴ Plaintiff opposes.⁵

For the following reasons, the Court **DENIES** Doyon/Aramark's motion.

I. Discussion

Doyon/Aramark says it is a joint venture between Aramark and Doyon Limited, licensed to do business in Alaska.⁶

In Alaska, "the association of two or more persons to carry on as co-owners a business for profit formed a partnership, whether or not the persons intended to form a partnership."⁷ Further, "all partners are liable jointly and severally for all obligations of the partnership unless otherwise agreed by the claimant or provided by law."⁸

Doyon/Aramark is a partnership between Aramark and Doyon Limited. Aramark is jointly and severally liable for Doyon/Aramark's obligations. Accordingly, Aramark is a proper defendant to Plaintiff's suit.

⁴ *Id.*

⁵ Doc. [8](#).

⁶ Doc. [4-2](#). Doyon/Aramark does not establish it is a limited liability company or corporation.

⁷ [Alaska Stat. § 32.06.202](#).

⁸ [Alaska Stat. § 32.06.306](#).

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II. Conclusion

For the foregoing reasons, the Court **DENIES** Doyon/Aramark's motion to dismiss or transfer venue. Doyon/Aramark is not a party to this suit. Defendant Aramark is the proper defendant.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

Dated: May 25, 2021

s/ James S. Gwin
JAMES S. GWIN
UNITED STATES DISTRICT JUDGE